

Applicants elect, with traverse, the species illustrated in Fig. 2B, Group II. Claim 6 reads on Fig. 2B.

Applicants traverse the restriction requirement on the grounds that 35 USC § 121 authorizes restriction only when the claimed invention is "independent and distinct" (emphasis added). A search of the subject matter of the other Groups would necessarily encompass the subject matter of Group II. Thus, the species delineated in Group II is not directed to an independent and distinct matter. or  
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Reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement and an action on the merits of all the claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,




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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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